

DRAFT

**Mansfield Board of Education
October 23, 2014
Minutes**

Attendees: Randy Walikonis, Chair, Jay Rueckl, Vice-Chair, Martha Kelly, Secretary, Susannah Everett, John Fratiello, Sarah Lacombe, Katherine Paulhus, Carrie Silver-Bernstein, Kathy Ward

The meeting was called to order at 7:34pm by Mr. Walikonis.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION:

Mr. Walikonis honored Mark LaPlaca for his years of service (2007-2014) on the Mansfield Board of Education.

2015 Teacher of the Year Ceremony: Erika LaBella, kindergarten teacher at Southeast School was honored as Mansfield's 2015 Teacher of the Year.

HEARING FOR VISITORS: None.

COMMUNICATIONS: Letter from William Hammon, Retiring Director of Facilities Management.

ADDITIONS TO THE PRESENT AGENDA: Motion by Mr. Rueckl, seconded by Mrs. Paulhus, to move Grievance Hearing for MEA grievance on professional development to after Consent Agenda. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

MMSA: Marie Hodrinsky, President, reported on activities the group participates in to support programs at Mansfield Middle School.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Personnel Committee: Mrs. Lacombe reported the MAA contract and Instructional Assistants Contracts are in the process of being ratified. There is no need for an Executive Session. She also reported the Committee approves the Instructional Assistants request to change the name Instructional Assistants to Paraeducators. The Board concurred.

EASTCONN Executive Committee: Mrs. Paulhus will report at the November 13th meeting.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:

- Middle School Education Week: Mrs. Morell and Mr. Barlow reported the week has been very successful with over 200 parents attending in 3 days.
- Draft 2015 Board of Education Meetings: Motion by Mr. Rueckl, seconded by Kathy Ward, to adopt the proposed 2015 Board of Education Meeting dates. Vote: Unanimous in favor.
- Certified Staff Substitute Update: Dr. Leclerc provided an update on the district's substitute teacher pool and the rate paid to substitutes.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by Mrs. Paulhus, seconded by Ms. Silver-Bernstein, to approve the minutes of the October 9, 2014 Meeting with the additional notation that Ms. Ward was in attendance. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

NEW BUSINESS: Mr. Walikonis noted the possibility of rescheduling the November 13, 2014 meeting. After discussion, the meeting will be held as scheduled.

CONSENT AGENDA: Motion by Ms. Paulhus, seconded by Ms. Ward that the following item for the Board of Education October 23, 2014 meeting be approved or received for the record. Vote: Unanimous in favor
That the Mansfield Public Schools Board of Education approves the maternity/unpaid child rearing leave request by Kimberly Gilmore, Vinton School Art teacher effective February 11, 2015 through the remainder of the 2014-2015 school year.

GRIEVANCE HEARING FOR MEA GRIEVANCE ON PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT: The Board was joined by Atty. Kevin Roy, Shipman and Goodwin. Representing the MEA were Carrie Holman, President, Rochelle Marcus, Professional Rights & Responsibilities, and Karen Moylan, Math Consultant. After review of grievance, with MEA and Dr. Leclerc, Acting Superintendent, the Board recess to non-meeting for discussion of strategy related to collective bargaining agreement.

The Board returned to open session at 10:30pm. Motion by Mr. Rueckl, seconded by Mrs. Kelly, to deny the grievance. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

The Board authorized its attorney, Mr. Roy, to write a decision for the Board Chair to issue within 10 days.

HEARING FOR VISITORS: None

SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA: A report on professional development in the district was requested.

Motion by Mr. Fratiello, seconded by Mrs. Paulhus to adjourn at 10:40pm. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Celeste Griffin, Board Clerk